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January 4, 2000

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BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PCT/FR99/01172 - filed May 17, 1999

Re:

Application of Bernard DABEZIES of NEUILLY S/SEINE, FRANCE;

Pascal DELROISE of VALENCIENNES, FRANCE METHOD OF LASER WELDING OVERLAPPING SHEETS AND CORRESPONDING RAILWAY VEHICLE BODY

Our Ref: Q-57442

Dear Sir:

The following documents and fees are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and in accordance with Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

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X an English translation of the International Application.
an English translation of Article 19 claim amendments.
an English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER).
an executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
X an Information Disclosure Statement containing the International Search Report, Form
PTO-1449 and a complete copy of each reference.

Please see the attached PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

an executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

 $-20 = _x $18 =$ Total claims Independent Claims -3 = x \$78 =Base Fee TOTAL FILING FEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Page 2 January 4, 2000

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$840.00 is attached. You are also directed and authorized to charge or credit any difference or overpayment to said Account. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.492 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from May 18, 1998 based on French application Serial No. 98/06254.

Respectfully submitted,

John/H. Mion

Registration No. 18,879

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20231 (202) 663-7901 January 4, 2000